

## MOTION PICTURE CENSORSHIP PERLS OUTLINED BY REVIEWERS OF FILMS

Brownlow Tells Monday Evening Club Remedy Lies in Hands of Producers.

### URGE CO-OPERATIVE EDITING

Marvelous Growth to Point Where Yearly Receipts Are \$350,000,000 Emphasized.

Motion picture censorship was discussed pro, con, and crosswise before the Monday Evening Club, meeting at the Y. M. C. A. last evening.

Two members of the National Board of Review (formerly the National Board of Censors) outlined the perils of censorship and urged instead what they termed "co-operative editing."

Commissioner Louis Brownlow warned that censorship was bound to come in Washington unless producers combined to eliminate certain types of pictures. "There is a certain class of pictures now being shown that are bad in their effect just in proportion as they are well acted. The better they are artistically the worse they are morally," the Commissioner said.

**Opinion Divided on Nudity.**  
The Commissioners were condemned by some speakers and commended by others for the rule against screen nudity which resulted in the disbarment of the film "Purity" from a Washington theater.

W. D. McGuire, executive secretary of the National Board of Review of Motion Pictures, explained the attitude of that board regarding the film, "Purity."

The Rev. Dr. John Van Schaick, president of the Board of Education, raised the question of advertising certain motion pictures.

The Rev. Randolph McKim, pastor of the Church of the Epiphany, who viewed "Purity" at a private exhibition, said:

"Some folks always raise the issue that we ought to remove statues and pictures from art galleries if we display nudity from the screen. Well, I would be glad to see some of them removed. If an art gallery had nothing in it but nude pictures I would help close it up."

**Declares Standards Change.**  
Aaron Brylawski, representing the Exhibitors' League of Washington, said:

"Our standards change. Many of our grandmothers would not be seen on the streets with their own granddaughters in the garb which young folk now wear."

"There was cause for complaint against some pictures in the early days of the business. Then we imported many pictures from France, and their standards are not ours. But now America makes its own pictures, and ships many abroad, and what is made in America is all right."

W. Frank Persons, member of the executive committee of the National Board of Review, and director of the where 10,000,000 people attend the shows daily, where at least 65 per cent of our population is made up of are more or less regular attendants at the exhibitions.

**People Want Better Pictures.**  
"American people want better pictures, and they also want them, as an art, educational device, and means of entertainment preserved and allowed to grow. G. Stanley Hall calls them the 'Greatest didactic device since the invention of printing.'"

"Compared to the printing press the motion picture has been held like lightning. In a decade it has broken into every social strata, into all nations, everywhere on the civilized globe."

Mr. Persons said that the motion picture, like the theater, had suffered from censorship.

"Motion pictures should enlist the passionate criticism and constructive effort of the American people—the same sort of criticism and effort we lavish on our public schools."

**Needs Serious Study.**  
Mr. Persons said that a serious effort should be made to study the motion picture problem before attempting to deal with it. He defined the problem as threefold.

"How to eliminate bad pictures, especially for the protection of children."

"How to study audiences."

"How to improve and liberate the art and make of it what it may become."

Mr. Persons then told of the efforts of various States and cities toward censorship. He said that in Chicago they had been as efficient and intelligent as any local censorship could be.

"I don't think any one contends, in Chicago or elsewhere, that city has developed motion pictures or has elevated them. Chicago's effort has been destructive, preventive, and not constructive."

**Tells Ohio's Experience.**  
Mr. Persons then told of Ohio's experience where effort was made by three people to review about 700 pictures a month. This entailed such labor that some of the reviewers, he said, were placed in a room to pass upon two pictures shown at the same time.

Asserting that few now contend that State or city censorship is the way to deal with pictures, Mr. Persons then sought to show why the proposed Federal censorship would be ineffective, and defeat the end for which it was devised.

Federal censorship would make of motion pictures a political issue of paramount importance, Mr. Persons predicted. He recalled that motion picture men had called on both candidates before the recent election to get their views on censorship. He told how a member of the New York Legislature who had proposed a measure for restricting certain motion picture exhibitions had been defeated in a district he was supposed to control, because the motion picture exhibitors threw on their screens daily some variation of the injunction: "Vote against Blank; he would suppress motion pictures."

**"Censorship Unnecessary."**  
"Censorship in America is un-American and unnecessary," concluded Mr. Persons.

Commissioner Brownlow asserted that the form of "co-operative editing" advocated by Mr. Persons was essentially censorship. He said many

## The Office Boy Suffered a Terrible Humiliation the First Day the Boss Wore His Heavy Underwear to Work



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of the regulatory devices were essentially censorship, because someone always had to be responsible.

Commissioner Brownlow defined the recent edit against nudity on the screen as a "rule" and said that it had been passed in an effort to avoid censorship here.

He urged that producers get together and eliminate certain types of pictures. He said the interest in cleaner motion pictures was increasing and hardly a day went by without some demand being made upon him to suppress certain pictures.

**Child's Interest Considered.**  
W. D. McGuire, secretary of the National Board of Review, took issue with Commissioner Brownlow on the latter's assertion that all motion pictures ought to be of a standard which children could attend.

Commissioner Brownlow said he had meant that those neighborhood theaters which cater to children should regulate all shows to conform to child patronage, and that in other theaters pictures not meant for children might properly be shown.

Mr. McGuire said Washington needed laws regulating the time of attendance of children at the shows, that the license commissioner should have power, and that the existing police regulations against bad exhibitions should be enforced.

He attacked the Commissioner's rule on nudity, saying it offered opportunity to work to great disadvantage in some cases.

**Capable of Artistic Development.**  
"Many of our workers believe that the motion picture is capable of development to an artistic stage where nudity may be shown with as great propriety as in art galleries," he said.

He said that the showing of the film before the membership of the National Board of Review resulted in a division. Then a group of social workers was called in. They, too, were divided about it.

It was then decided not to pass the picture, but to refer it to the officials of each city of the division of the board and urge them to give the picture a private showing to leaders in their community to see whether it was desirable.

He pointed to other pictures, especially "Inspiration," where the same method had been applied. One community it was severely condemned, in another city 100 miles away it was shown and pronounced the best picture of the year.

**How Opinions Differ.**  
Gardner Mack, motion picture editor of The Times, told how one portion of a picture had been commented on by Commissioner Brownlow as being morbid and "nauseating," and Mrs. John I. Locher, of the Federation of Women's Clubs, who is arranging the matinees for children, had pronounced it one of the most realistic and enjoyable pictures she had seen.

Gardner Mack urged the individual responsibility of civic leaders to see and pass judgment upon pictures under debate.

He said that censorship in the development of any art was unthinkable, and that when the question of morals became simply graphic it ceased to be wholly moral.

Mrs. Locher explained her plan of matinee performances for school children.

Dr. George F. Bowerman, librarian of the Public Library, presided. The subject for the club's December meeting will be "Proper Care of Tubercular and Aesthetic Children in the Schools."

**FARMERS FOR U. S.**  
**R. R. OWNERSHIP**

National Grange Also Urged to Favor Prohibition in Capital.

Prohibition of the liquor traffic in the District of Columbia and Government ownership and operation of all railroads in the United States were urged in resolutions presented at yesterday's session of the National Grange.

The patrons of husbandry close their ten-day convention and golden jubilee celebration at the Raleigh Hotel Friday.

All resolutions today were merely presented and referred to the grange committee on resolutions, which will report later in the week. The resolutions are viewed as good indications, however, of the sentiment of the fiftieth National Grange convention.

C. E. Spence, State master of Oregon, introduced the resolution asking that the grange "reaffirm its former action in behalf of national prohibition and further reaffirm its demand for prohibition of the liquor traffic in the National Capital and in the entire District of Columbia."

## GRAVES, AS CITIZEN, TO DEFY GERMANY

Kaiser's Alleged Former Confidential Agent Takes Out Citizenship Papers.

NEW YORK, Nov. 21.—Armauer Karl Graves, alleged former confidential agent of the German government, who was arrested in Washington ten days ago charged with an attempt to blackmail the Countess von Bernstorff, wife of the German ambassador, called at the naturalization office in the hall of records yesterday and made application for his first citizenship papers. With him was his counsel, John J. Halligan, of 277 Broadway, who said:

"Dr. Graves fears that an attempt will be made by the German government to get possession of his person. As a citizen he could demand the protection of this Government if any attack was made upon his liberty by a foreign power. That explains his application for his papers at this time."

Dr. Graves answered all the questions of the clerk until he was asked where he was born. He declined to reply and it was not until a telephone message was sent to the Federal bureau and an answer received that specific information on this point could be dispensed with. That his papers were made out. He said he was born in "Central Europe" on May 7, 1878, and that he lived at 55 West Sixty-ninth street.

Asked whose subject he was, he replied, "the King of Hungary." In reply to other questions he said that his last place of foreign residence was London, that he emigrated from Southampton, England, that he weighed 300 pounds, and that he was 5 feet 10 inches tall.

He paid the necessary dollar, and received his first papers. Dr. Graves is charged with the naturalization charge, and must appear for examination on December 6 before United States Commissioner Taylor in Washington, Mr. Halligan said.

"Dr. Graves is certain that the German government would do anything to get him into its power, and he is afraid of some plot against his person. I am searching the records to see if there is not some precedent by which Prince Hatzfeldt, counselor to the German embassy, cannot be compelled to testify. It was in the home of the prince that the alleged blackmail attempt was made."

"I question whether the prince or any other attaché of the German embassy could appear as a witness in a legal proceeding here without the consent of the home government. But if that consent could be procured, and the prince should testify, I am sure that I could make his testimony of worldwide interest."

**Y. M. C. A. WILL GIVE STAG AT TERMINAL**  
Railroad Branch Adopts Idea to Secure Members.

In an effort to interest more men in the campaign of the Railroad Y. M. C. A., to secure 30,000 new members, the local association is to give a stag social to the members and their friends tomorrow evening at the terminal "Y" in the Union Station.

The local organization must secure 400 new members as their proportion of the 30,000 that is asked for in the "Continental Membership Campaign." The associations in this country and Canada are co-operating.

Edwin Callow, George O'Connor, and Frank Bernick, will assist the Terminal R. Y. M. C. A. orchestra to entertain. All railroad men are invited to come and bring their railroad friends.

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For Infants and Children.

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Always Bears the Signature of

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ALCOHOL—3 PER CENT.  
A Vegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food by Regulating the Stomachs and Bowels of

INFANTS AND CHILDREN  
Thereby Promoting Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC.

Prepared by J. C. FLETCHER  
The Great Eastern Dispensary, NEW YORK.  
At 6 months old 35 Doses—35 CENTS

THE GREAT EASTERN DISPENSARY, NEW YORK CITY.

## 'FRAT' AND SORORITY ATTACKED BY UNION

Central Organization Calls Institutions Undemocratic and Unwholesome.

Sororities and fraternities in the public schools are characterized as "undemocratic and unwholesome" in a resolution to be presented to the Board of Education this week by the Central Labor Union.

Opposition was voiced against student societies by the union at last night's meeting, and delegates to the central body were requested to have their locals adopt similar resolutions and forward them to the Board of Education.

**Unsocial and Undemocratic.**  
Secretary John B. Colpoys presented the resolution, which declared that "societies of this kind tend to develop unsocial and undemocratic institutions and exert an unwholesome influence in the public schools of the District."

The union also unanimously adopted a resolution favoring the Saturday half-holiday and instructed the secretary to convey the sentiments of the union to the President.

**Appeal to Congress.**  
An appeal to Congress to appoint a committee to investigate and suggest remedies for the high cost of living is to be made as a result of favorable action on resolution introduced by N. P. Alfano, William W. Keeler, and William Huttel, of the Machinists' Union.

The resolution pointed out that Congress was empowered to enact laws correcting commercial abuses, and that a Congressional investigation of the soaring prices of today would bring about quick relief.

**Hunter Killed by Own Shotgun in Accident**

HARRISBURG, Nov. 20.—William Shaffer, twenty-seven years old, was instantly killed while hunting in an orchard back of Wildwood Park. He placed his shotgun on a stump for a few minutes and the shell was discharged when he picked it up. The shot entered the right side of Shaffer's neck, and death resulted at once.

## CARTOON ON BIRTH CONTROL TO STAND

Committee Decides Not to Withdraw "Jones Family Group."

The "Jones Family Group" will not be withdrawn.

This cartoon, reproduced on the postal cards of the Washington Birth Control League, was objected to by a member, Mrs. Evelyn C. Widney, of 1356 Kenyon street, on the ground that it tended to cause the aims of the organization to be "vulgarized and distorted."

A special meeting of the executive committee was called last evening to decide whether the cartoon should be withdrawn. The committee stood by the cartoon, and it will continue to circulate the picture.

The cartoon, drawn by K. B. Chamberlain for "The Masses," shows a careworn mother and father, with seven nondescript children around them, and points the lesson that their condition might have been improved by family limitation.

The meeting last evening was held at the home of the league's president, Mrs. Anna M. Wexler, 400 First street southeast.

**DR. JAMES L. GORDON TALKS ON PATRIOTS**

"The American flag, and not the American dollar, is the emblem of the country," Dr. James L. Gordon, pastor of the First Congregational Church, told members of the Legion of Loyal Women at their annual banquet in the Raleigh last night. Dr. Gordon spoke on "Modern Patriotism."

The guests were welcomed by Mrs. Ada H. Weiss, president of the Legion. Miss Grace M. Pierce, vice president, was toastmistress.

Contributing to the program of toasts were P. T. Moran, president of the Chamber of Commerce; Mrs. Mary S. Lockwood, Mrs. Mary Logan Tucker, Miss Cora C. Curry, Mrs. Thomas Calver, Mrs. Augustus Knight, Mrs. Saunders Johnston, Isaac Gans, Col. John M. McElroy, Gen. John Clemm, S. A. retired, and Dr. Thomas Calver.

Mrs. W. H. Houghton, chaplain of the legion, gave the invocation. Musical numbers were given by Helen M. Cheesman and Miss Florence Reynolds.

## RUB ON SPRAINS, PAINS, SWELLING

Don't suffer! Relief comes the moment you apply "St. Jacobs Oil."

Don't stay crippled! Rub this soothing, penetrating oil right into the sprain, ache, or strain, and out comes pain, soreness, stiffness, and swelling.

Nothing else penetrates, heals and strengthens the injured muscles, nerves, tendons and ligaments so promptly. It doesn't burn or discolor the skin and can not cause injury. Don't suffer! Get a small trial bottle from any drug store now—limber up!

Rub the misery right out. A moment after "St. Jacobs Oil" is applied you can not feel the slightest pain or soreness, and you can go about your regular duties.

"St. Jacobs Oil" conquers pain. It has been used effectively for sprains, strains, soreness and stiffness for 85 years—six gold medal awards—Advt.

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**Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets**  
assist nature to remove all poisonous waste matter in the system. They set on the liver and bowels like calomel yet have no dangerous after-effects. They are reliable—safe and cannot harm—are used by women folks everywhere.

Constipation is nearly always the cause of all ailments of women. The intestines must be made to do their work as nature intended—in a normal way.

Have color in your cheeks. Take one or two tablets nightly and note the pleasing results. All druggists—10c and 25c.

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after every meal